

FACT SHEET | Simulated Biological Tissue for Training

Requirements to increase the trauma and surgical skills of military medical personnel have resulted in significant increases in the use of live tissue in training. Even though these training efforts have improved the survival chances of wounded Soldiers in the field they are unsustainable as long term solutions. This problem is being addressed at the highest levels of the Department of Defense through a multiservice team that is exploring ways to reduce the use of live tissue in medical education and training.



In response to these needs, the Research, Development and Engineering Command, Simulation and Training Technology Center (RDECOM STTC) is leading a multi-agency effort to develop simulation technologies that will reduce the military's reliance on live animals and on cadavers to train surgical and trauma treatment skills. The STTC has four years starting in 2010 to develop technologies that can be used to train hands in the body procedures. This program will use programs of instruction, both military and civilian to guide the research. Prototypes will be developed and tested in military training events and in medical schools and hospitals. Initial areas of interest are material science, advanced modeling, simulation, physiology, fluid development and learning effectiveness/efficiency. Other areas of research will emerge as the effort progresses.



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